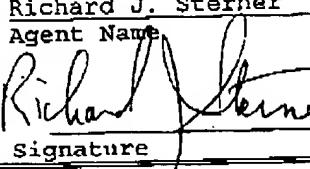


THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Cottone et al.  
Serial No. : 09/862,690  
Filed : May 22, 2001  
For : SELF-EXPANDING STENT  
Examiner : Sarah K. Webb  
Group Art Unit : 3731

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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below at the facsimile number <u>703-872-9306</u> .	
Richard J. Sternier Agent Name 	35,372 PTO Reg. No.
<u>Richard Sternier</u> Signature	March 15, 2005 Date of Signature

Attention: Examiner Sarah K. Webb

Group Art Unit: 3731

Facsimile No.: 703-872-9306

No. of Pages: 15

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

This is submitted in response to the final Office Action  
mailed November 24, 2004 and as a follow-up to the February 9,

FROM W&C LLP 19TH FL.

(TUE) 3.15'05 1:44/ST. 1:44/NO. 4260454535 P 2  
**1133279-0004**

2005 interview among the Examiner, her Supervisor, one of  
Applicants and the undersigned. Reconsideration is respectfully  
requested in view of the amendments and remarks following.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants hereby request a one-month extension of time extending the time for response from February 24, 2005 up to and including March 24, 2005. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required \$120 extension fee to Deposit Account No. 23-1703. Any other fees which may be due for any reason in connection with this Petition may likewise be charged.